

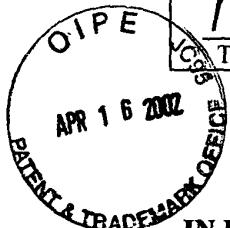
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION OF:**  
DE VRIES et al.

**Group Art Unit: 1638**

**APPLICATION NO.:** 09/180,798

**Examiner:** Mehta, Ashwin D.

**FILED:** November 16, 1998

**Docket:** S-137-1103B

**FOR: PRODUCTION OF APOMICTIC SEED**

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner consider the preliminary amendments and attending remarks.

**In the specification:**

Please add the following sentence immediately after the title of the invention on page 1:

This application is a continuation of PCT/EP97/02443, which claims priority from European Application No. 01108901.8.

Please add the following heading following the title of the invention on page 1:

--Field of Invention--

Please add the following heading following the first paragraph on page 1: